

[20 April, 2001]

RAJYA SABHA

Survey of Damage by Earthquake

3833. SHRI ANANTRAY DEVSHANKER DAVE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the survey conducted with regard to the earthquake-affected areas with 50 per cent or less rural population as also with a population of 1000 or more;

(b) the financial losses, loss of human lives as well as damage to immovable/movable properties suffered as per the survey conducted on the basis of the population; and

(c) the area-wise details of the number of people who were found alive and dead, separately?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) No such survey has been conducted by the Ministry of Agriculture. However, an Inter-Ministerial Central Team visited the affected areas for assessment of the situation and requirement of financial assistance.

(b) and (c) The Government of Gujarat estimated the damage due to the earthquake at about Rs. 21,000 crore. The State Government has intimated that 1.59 crore population have been affected and resulted in loss of about 20,000 human lives and 20,700 cattle and damage to about 13 lakh houses.

KVKs in Assam

3834. SHRI PRAKANTA WARISA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the Krishi Vigyan Kendras set up so far in Assam during the last three years;

(b) the details of target fixed for setting up of KVKs in all the districts of NER during the Ninth Five Year Plan period; and

(c) the steps taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN): (a) In addition to four Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) established earlier, during the last three years, the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) has strengthened the existing Zonal Agricultural Research Stations (ZARS) in six districts to take up the additional functions of Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVK). These districts are Karbi Anglong, Naogaon, Lakhimpur, Karimganj, Kamrup and Tinsukhia.

(b) The ICAR has identified 25 districts of NER for establishment of new KVKs. The State-wise details are Assam (6), Arunachal Pradesh (4), Manipur (2), Meghalaya (5), Mizoram (1), Nagaland (2), Sikkim (3) and Tripura (2).

(c) A detail proposal has been submitted to the Planning Commission in this regard.

Likelihood of another Earthquake in Ahmedabad

† 3835. SHRI SURYABHAN PATIL VAHADANE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the Government's reaction on the news-item published under the caption, "Ahmedabad main phir bhukamp ka dar, gharon mein nahin ja rahey log", published in Dainik Jagran on 28th January, 2001; and

(b) the arrangements Government are going to make in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) and (b) It is not possible to predict the occurrence of earthquakes. Moreover, it is the responsibility of the State Government to take necessary measures in the wake of natural calamities including earthquake. The Government of India supplements the efforts of the State Government with financial and logistic support.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.